

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 123  
By Burks

A RESOLUTION to express the sorrow of the General Assembly  
at the death of Walter Warren Shanks.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly was greatly saddened to learn of the death of Walter Warren Shanks, former Putnam County School Superintendent, whose bountiful life of purpose and commitment was dedicated to serving his family and his community; and

WHEREAS, throughout his life, Walter Warren Shanks earned the respect and admiration of his peers and the community, always giving fully of himself and observing the time-honored spirit of Tennessee volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, a resident of Silver Point, Mr. Shanks was the son of the late Walter and Euda Warren Shanks; and

WHEREAS, one of Tennessee's most respected educators, Mr. Shanks was graduated from Baxter Seminary; he also held degrees from Tennessee Tech; and

WHEREAS, answering the call to military service, Mr. Shanks served in the U.S. Navy; and

WHEREAS, for many years, Mr. Shanks was a prominent and highly influential figure in the educational and civic life of Putnam County, and he served the people in numerous capacities; he always worked diligently at his duties and worked well with others; and

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WHEREAS, Mr. Shanks began his sterling career in education by teaching for 10 years at Capshaw Elementary and for six years at Cookeville Jr. High, where he also served as assistant principal; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Shanks served astutely as superintendent of Putnam County Schools from 1972 until 1984. He later worked for the State Department of Education, retiring from that position five years ago; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Shanks was an active and vital part of the community and his profession; he participated in numerous organizations, and was recently elected president of the Retired Teachers Association; and

WHEREAS, he enjoyed running his cattle farm at Silver Point; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Shanks evinced his faith in the Lord through his membership at Buffalo Valley Presbyterian Church where he taught the adult Sunday School class. It was there he became ill, while teaching the lesson theme, "Live in love and holiness"; and

WHEREAS, Walter Shanks enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Wanda Stout Shanks; his sons and daughters-in-law, Walter Hargis and Lynn Shanks, Wayne and Kathy Shanks, and Stanley and Cindy Shanks; and his grandchildren, Walter Hargis Shanks, Jr., Robert Warren Shanks, Tiffany Shanks, Andrea Shanks, Wes Shanks, Rachel Shanks, and Sara Shanks; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Shanks has left behind an indelible legacy of public service, hard work and goodwill; he was truly committed to family and community and his many accomplishments should be appropriately commemorated; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby honor the memory of Walter Warren Shanks, reflecting fondly upon his many lasting contributions to society.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the members of this Assembly express their condolences to Mr. Shank's family and friends.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.